



# Mauldeth Road Primary School

## Anti-Bullying Policy



## Aim

Wherever groups of children or adults interact, bullying can occur. Our aim in school is that it is readily and effectively dealt with.

## Definitions

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour that is repeated over a period of time, making it difficult for the person concerned to defend themselves. This can take the form of name-calling, violence, threatened violence, isolation, ridicule or indirect action such as spreading unpleasant stories about someone.

The school works hard to ensure that all pupils know the difference between bullying and simply “falling out”.

## Actions to Tackle Bullying

School rules are regularly reinforced in whole school assembly and in class. Children are encouraged to use the reporting system outlined in the behaviour policy. School staff are expected to be vigilant. Teachers, teaching assistants and lunchtime organizers are all instructed to watch out for oppressive behaviour; if they see bullying, it is their responsibility to report it to an appropriate member of staff. When children or parents report bullying, it is important that they feel that we are receptive to the report. We will reassure and thank those who report bullying to us. All reported incidents of bullying will be investigated

Approaches taken to resolve bullying issues will be dependent upon the nature of the problem and age or maturity of the children concerned. Actions might be undertaken with individuals or with a group. These may include

- a restorative approach
- a punitive approach
- work on positive relationships with all of those involved

Whichever approach is taken, it is important that the victim is satisfied with the outcome, has a clear pathway to report any further problem and is not left feeling unsafe.

## More Severe or Persistent Cases

Strategies to deal with more severe cases, or cases where anxiety needs to be dispelled will include, as appropriate:

- Asking victims to fill out a daily report book to avoid them feeling anxious about what to report
- Allowing children direct access to a senior member of staff
- Observing the children playing on the yard
- Placing particular children on regular ‘watch’ and informing all staff
- Enrolling children in lunch time and after school clubs
- Inviting parents into school to observe their child playing on the yard

## Those who bully

Children bully for many reasons and it is important to also consider what has led to any specific instance of bullying. Consideration should always be given to the possibility that the bully has themselves had detrimental experiences and that their emotional or psychological needs may need to be addressed.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the safeguarding, equal opportunities and behaviour policies. Where bullying is aggravated by the use of, for example, racist or homophobic language or actions, it will always be referred to a senior member of staff, who will ensure that matters are dealt with thoroughly and logged.

Reviewed By	Premises and Safety Committee
Review	Biannually
Last Reviewed	June 2022
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